KAVERI

COMPLETE QUESTION BANK

MCQs · Short Answer · Long Answer · Grammar · True/False · Fill in the Blanks — fully solved

Class IX · English · Based on the NCERT Textbook Kaveri (First Edition, January 2026)

Section	Count
Multiple Choice Questions	**71**
Short Answer Questions	**98**
Long Answer Questions	**16**
Grammar Questions	**75**
True or False	**16**
Fill in the Blanks (Vocabulary)	**48**
TOTAL	**324**

Section 1 — Multiple Choice Questions

Unit 1: How I Taught My Grandmother to Read / Bharat Our Land

1. Who is the author of ‘How I Taught My Grandmother to Read’?
A) R.K. Narayan
B) Sudha Murthy
C) Ruskin Bond
D) Anita Desai
Answer: B) Sudha Murthy

2. What was the name of the serialised novel read to the grandmother?
A) Kashi Yatre
B) Malgudi Days
C) Godaan
D) Chandrakanta
Answer: A) Kashi Yatre

3. On which day of the week did the new episode of the novel arrive?
A) Monday
B) Wednesday
C) Friday
D) Sunday
Answer: B) Wednesday

4. Why was the narrator away for about a week?
A) She was ill
B) She attended a village wedding
C) She went on a school trip
D) She was studying for exams
Answer: B) She attended a village wedding

5. What emotion did the grandmother show that was unusual for her?
A) Anger
B) Tears
C) Laughter
D) Jealousy
Answer: B) Tears

6. What did the grandmother finally decide to do?
A) Stop listening to stories
B) Learn to read
C) Buy a radio
D) Travel to Kashi
Answer: B) Learn to read

7. In ‘Bharat Our Land,’ what refrain is repeated in every stanza?
A) ‘she's timeless’
B) ‘she's peerless’
C) ‘she's boundless’
D) ‘she's fearless’
Answer: B) ‘she's peerless’

8. Which ancient philosophical texts does ‘Bharat Our Land’ allude to?
A) The Puranas
B) The Upanishads
C) The Vedas alone
D) The Mahabharata

Answer: **B) The Upanishads**

9. What poetic device is used when the nation is referred to as ‘she’?

A) Simile
B) **Personification**
C) Onomatopoeia
D) Alliteration
Answer: **B) Personification**

Unit 2: The Pot Maker / Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations

10. What craft did Sentila want to learn?

A) Weaving
B) **Pottery**
C) Painting
D) Carpentry
Answer: **B) Pottery**

11. What craft did Sentila's mother, Arenla, want her to learn instead?

A) Pottery
B) **Weaving**
C) Embroidery
D) Carving
Answer: **B) Weaving**

12. Why did Arenla resist teaching Sentila pottery?

A) It was forbidden for girls
B) **It brought her no joy and little income**
C) She didn't know how
D) There was no clay available
Answer: **B) It brought her no joy and little income**

13. Who supported Sentila's interest in pottery?

A) Her father
B) Her teacher
C) **Her grandmother, Onula**
D) A neighbour
Answer: **C) Her grandmother, Onula**

14. How far was the riverbank where clay was collected?

A) 2 km
B) 6 km
C) **16 km**
D) 26 km
Answer: **C) 16 km**

15. In ‘Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations,’ what does the poem primarily celebrate?

A) Wealth
B) **Dignity of vocations/manual work**
C) Academic success
D) Sporting achievement
Answer: **B) Dignity of vocations/manual work**

16. What literary format does the poem partly use to describe vocations?

A) **Riddles**
B) Letters
C) Dialogues
D) Footnotes
Answer: **A) Riddles**

17. What tool is mentioned for shaping clay in the story?

A) Chisel
B) Spatula
C) Hammer
D) Needle
Answer: B) Spatula

18. What does the word ‘pittance’ mean as used in the story?
A) A large fortune
B) A very small amount of money
C) A type of clay
D) A traditional tool
Answer: B) A very small amount of money

Unit 3: Winds of Change / Canvas of Soil

19. What is the traditional object discussed in ‘Winds of Change’?
A) Umbrella
B) Pankha (hand fan)
C) Basket
D) Lamp
Answer: B) Pankha (hand fan)

20. Which of these is NOT mentioned as a traditional pankha material?
A) Palm leaves
B) Bamboo
C) Plastic
D) Cloth
Answer: C) Plastic

21. What does the title ‘Winds of Change’ cleverly refer to?
A) Only weather patterns
B) Both the fan's function and changing times
C) Political change
D) Seasonal festivals
Answer: B) Both the fan's function and changing times

22. In ‘Canvas of Soil,’ what is the garden compared to?
A) A canvas/painting
B) A battlefield
C) A marketplace
D) A library
Answer: A) A canvas/painting

23. What are seeds compared to in the poem?
A) Coins
B) Brushstrokes
C) Stars
D) Raindrops
Answer: B) Brushstrokes

24. What challenge do pankha-artisans face today, according to the article?
A) Lack of clay
B) Competition from electric fans/AC
C) Government ban
D) Lack of interest from tourists
Answer: B) Competition from electric fans/AC

25. What does ‘sustainable livelihood’ mean?
A) A very high income
B) A way of earning that can continue long-term without depleting resources
C) A government job

D) Seasonal work only
Answer: B) A way of earning that can continue long-term without depleting resources

26. What quality of pankha craftsmanship does the article highlight alongside its function?
A) Its low cost
B) Its aesthetic/artistic value
C) Its weight
D) Its size
Answer: B) Its aesthetic/artistic value

Unit 4: Vitamin-M / I Cannot Remember My Mother

27. What does Ravi's mother wish existed, in 'Vitamin-M'?
A) A vitamin for energy
B) A pill to restore memory
C) A memory book
D) A robot helper
Answer: B) A pill to restore memory

28. Why does Ravi say 'Shh'?
A) He is scared
B) He doesn't want Grandpa to overhear and feel hurt
C) He is playing a game
D) The house is quiet
Answer: B) He doesn't want Grandpa to overhear and feel hurt

29. What does Grandpa's forgetfulness make the family fear at one point?
A) He is unwell
B) He might be lost
C) He is angry
D) He wants to move out
Answer: B) He might be lost

30. What tone does the story use to explore memory loss?
A) Purely comic
B) Purely tragic
C) A mix of gentle humour and empathy
D) Angry and critical
Answer: C) A mix of gentle humour and empathy

31. In 'I Cannot Remember My Mother,' what type of memory does the poem rely on?
A) Factual memory
B) Sensory memory (smell, touch, sound)
C) Photographic memory
D) No memory at all
Answer: B) Sensory memory (smell, touch, sound)

32. What emotion best describes the poem's tone?
A) Pure joy
B) A mixture of sadness and comfort
C) Anger
D) Fear
Answer: B) A mixture of sadness and comfort

33. What is the effect of repeating the poem's title line throughout?
A) It confuses the reader
B) It reinforces the poem's central ache
C) It has no effect
D) It changes the meaning each time
Answer: B) It reinforces the poem's central ache

34. What does the story suggest is the best response to an elderly relative's forgetfulness?
A) Frustration
B) Patience and empathy
C) Ignoring them
D) Strict correction
Answer: B) Patience and empathy

35. What word describes Grandpa's physical condition, suggesting weakness with age?
A) Robust
B) Frail
C) Athletic
D) Energetic
Answer: B) Frail

Unit 5: The World of Limitless Possibilities / Nine Gold Medals

36. Who is interviewed in ‘The World of Limitless Possibilities’?
A) P.T. Usha
B) Deepa Malik
C) Mary Kom
D) P.V. Sindhu
Answer: B) Deepa Malik

37. In what year is India's Paralympics debut dated?
A) 1948
B) 1968
C) 1988
D) 2000
Answer: B) 1968

38. Which of these awards has Dr Deepa Malik received?
A) Bharat Ratna
B) Khel Ratna
C) Nobel Prize
D) Param Vir Chakra
Answer: B) Khel Ratna

39. What does Dr Malik say she chose instead of ‘squandering’ her circumstances?
A) To give up
B) To make the most of them
C) To ignore them
D) To blame others
Answer: B) To make the most of them

40. Why is an interview format effective for this subject?
A) It's shorter
B) It lets readers hear her own authentic voice
C) It's easier to write
D) It avoids facts
Answer: B) It lets readers hear her own authentic voice

41. What is unusual about the finish in ‘Nine Gold Medals’?
A) No one finished
B) All nine runners were honoured together
C) Only one runner won
D) The race was cancelled
Answer: B) All nine runners were honoured together

42. What value does ‘Nine Gold Medals’ celebrate above individual victory?
A) Speed
B) Collective compassion/empathy

C) Wealth
D) Fame
Answer: B) Collective compassion/empathy

43. How did spectators react to the athletes' choice?
A) They booed
B) They gave a standing ovation
C) They left the stadium
D) They were confused
Answer: B) They gave a standing ovation

44. What does the interview's title suggest about disability?
A) It limits all ability
B) It does not limit true potential
C) It is a punishment
D) It should be hidden
Answer: B) It does not limit true potential

Unit 6: Twin Melodies / A Friend Found in Music

45. What is Shruti's ambition in 'Twin Melodies'?
A) To become a singer
B) To join a fusion music group
C) To become a teacher
D) To act in films
Answer: B) To join a fusion music group

46. What is Guru Nabin Sharma's profession?
A) Doctor
B) Classical violinist and Principal of a music school
C) Farmer
D) Painter
Answer: B) Classical violinist and Principal of a music school

47. What instrument does Avinash play in the fusion group?
A) Flute
B) Tabla
C) Sitar
D) Guitar
Answer: B) Tabla

48. What instrument does Iqbal play?
A) Tabla
B) Flute
C) Violin
D) Harmonium
Answer: B) Flute

49. What is the central conflict of the play?
A) Money problems
B) Tradition versus innovation in music
C) A missing violin
D) A school exam
Answer: B) Tradition versus innovation in music

50. What does the play's resolution suggest?
A) Innovation must be rejected
B) Tradition and innovation can coexist
C) Music is unimportant
D) Fathers are always right
Answer: B) Tradition and innovation can coexist

51. In ‘A Friend Found in Music,’ what is music compared to?
A) A stranger
B) A dependable friend
C) An enemy
D) A teacher
Answer: B) A dependable friend

52. What does the idiom ‘feel blue’ mean?
A) To feel happy
B) To feel sad
C) To feel angry
D) To feel confused
Answer: B) To feel sad

53. What device combines a verb with a preposition/adverb for a new meaning, as discussed in this unit?
A) Simile
B) Phrasal verb
C) Metaphor
D) Onomatopoeia
Answer: B) Phrasal verb

Unit 7: Carrier of Words / Words

54. What is Khetaram's profession in ‘Carrier of Words’?
A) Teacher
B) Gramin Dak Sewak (rural postal worker)
C) Farmer
D) Shopkeeper
Answer: B) Gramin Dak Sewak (rural postal worker)

55. Where does Khetaram deliver mail?
A) Mountain villages
B) Desert villages in Rajasthan
C) Coastal towns
D) A big city
Answer: B) Desert villages in Rajasthan

56. What is offered to Khetaram as a gesture of gratitude in the village?
A) Money
B) Jaggery
C) A new bicycle
D) Clothes
Answer: B) Jaggery

57. What does the mention of a mobile network provider emphasize?
A) Modern connectivity
B) How remote and cut-off the area is
C) Government policy
D) Advertising
Answer: B) How remote and cut-off the area is

58. What does the title ‘Carrier of Words’ suggest beyond the literal delivery of mail?
A) Nothing extra
B) Emotional/human connection carried along with the mail
C) Financial value
D) Political messages
Answer: B) Emotional/human connection carried along with the mail

59. What is ‘philately’?
A) A type of desert plant

B) The study/collection of postage stamps
C) A postal route
D) A type of camel
Answer: B) The study/collection of postage stamps

60. According to ‘Words,’ what condition must be met for words to hold real value?
A) They must rhyme
B) They must be sincere and heartfelt
C) They must be long
D) They must be written, not spoken
Answer: B) They must be sincere and heartfelt

61. What figure of speech repeats initial consonant sounds, as discussed in this unit?
A) Metaphor
B) Alliteration
C) Hyperbole
D) Simile
Answer: B) Alliteration

62. What responsibility does the poem ‘Words’ suggest comes with carrying someone else's words?
A) None
B) Relaying them faithfully and with the right tone
C) Charging a fee
D) Changing their meaning
Answer: B) Relaying them faithfully and with the right tone

Unit 8: Follow That Dream / Believe in Yourself

63. What is the source of the letter in ‘Follow That Dream’?
A) A novel
B) ‘My Daughter, My Friend’ by Irene Chua
C) A newspaper
D) A poem collection
Answer: B) ‘My Daughter, My Friend’ by Irene Chua

64. According to the letter, how many years does it typically take to reach a world-class standard?
A) 2 years
B) 5 years
C) At least 10 years
D) 20 years
Answer: C) At least 10 years

65. What must one do before committing fully to a dream, according to the letter?
A) Ignore the risks
B) Count the cost
C) Ask for permission
D) Give up other interests immediately
Answer: B) Count the cost

66. What tone does the letter mainly use?
A) Formal and distant
B) Warm, personal, and encouraging
C) Angry
D) Sarcastic
Answer: B) Warm, personal, and encouraging

67. In ‘Believe in Yourself,’ what type of question is used to engage the reader directly?
A) Direct question
B) Rhetorical question

C) Leading question
D) Closed question
Answer: B) Rhetorical question

68. What does ‘antithesis’ mean, as illustrated by ‘Speech is silver, but silence is gold’?
A) Repetition of sounds
B) A balanced contrast between two opposite ideas
C) Exaggeration
D) A direct comparison using 'like'
Answer: B) A balanced contrast between two opposite ideas

69. What is ‘status quo’?
A) A type of poem
B) The existing state of affairs
C) A grammar rule
D) A musical term
Answer: B) The existing state of affairs

70. What central message does ‘Believe in Yourself’ convey?
A) Avoid all risks
B) Self-belief helps in facing challenges
C) Success is guaranteed
D) Never ask for help
Answer: B) Self-belief helps in facing challenges

71. What does the poem's use of symbolism achieve, compared to stating its message plainly?
A) Makes it boring
B) Makes the message more vivid and memorable
C) Makes it confusing
D) Removes all meaning
Answer: B) Makes the message more vivid and memorable

Section 2 — Short Answer Questions

Unit 1: How I Taught My Grandmother to Read / Bharat Our Land

Prose: How I Taught My Grandmother to Read

1. What kind of relationship did the narrator share with her grandmother before the reading sessions began? Support your answer with two details from the story.

Answer: They shared a warm, affectionate relationship rooted in daily village life — the grandmother was illiterate but deeply caring, and the narrator lived with her grandparents in north Karnataka. Two details: they lived in the same household, and the narrator (about twelve) was trusted with reading to her grandmother.

2. Why do you think the narrator's grandmother looked forward to Wednesdays so eagerly?

Answer: Wednesday was the day the weekly Kannada magazine arrived with the next episode of the serialised novel Kashi Yatre, so it meant she would finally hear what happened next in a story she was deeply invested in.

3. What does the grandmother's habit of being able to “repeat the entire text by heart” reveal about her memory and her involvement with the story?

Answer: It shows she had an excellent, well-trained memory despite never having learned to read, and that she listened with total concentration and emotional investment rather than half-heartedly.

4. Describe the scene in which the narrator returns from the wedding. Why was she alarmed?

Answer: The narrator had been away about a week at a village wedding and came home to find her grandmother in tears — something she had never witnessed before, since her grandmother was normally very composed even in difficult situations, so the sight alarmed her deeply.

5. What reason did the grandmother finally give for being upset? What does her explanation show about her feelings of dependence?

Answer: She had missed hearing the week's episode because the narrator was away and no one else could read it to her. This shows how uncomfortable she felt depending entirely on someone else for something she cared about — a feeling that becomes the turning point pushing her toward learning to read herself.

6. In what way is the grandmother's decision to learn to read an act of quiet courage?

Answer: She was elderly and had never been to school, yet she chose to start something new and potentially embarrassing at her age rather than remain dependent — this quiet, determined choice to grow rather than accept her limits is itself an act of courage.

7. What does the story suggest about the value of literacy for people of any age?

Answer: It suggests literacy is never ‘too late’ to acquire, and that being able to read gives a person independence, dignity, and access to the stories and information they care about, regardless of age.

8. The story is titled “How I Taught My Grandmother to Read.” Suggest an alternative title and justify your choice.

Answer: Sample alternative: ‘It's Never Too Late to Learn.’ Justification: this title centres the story's broader message about lifelong learning rather than only the narrator's role as teacher, which is equally central to the story's meaning.

Poem: Bharat Our Land

9. What effect does the repeated refrain ‘she's peerless’ have on the tone of the poem?

Answer: It gives the poem a proud, celebratory, almost hymn-like tone, reinforcing again and again that India is being praised as unmatched.

10. Identify one allusion the poet uses to India's ancient heritage, and explain what quality of India it is meant to highlight.

Answer: An allusion to the Upanishads highlights India's deep philosophical and spiritual wisdom, reminding readers of its ancient intellectual heritage.

11. Why might a poet choose personification (referring to the nation as ‘she’) when writing a patriotic poem?

Answer: Personifying the nation as ‘she’ makes the country feel like a living, nurturing figure, which deepens the reader's emotional connection and affection.

12. How does the poem connect the physical landscape of India (mountains, rivers) with its spiritual and philosophical traditions?

Answer: The poem likely presents the physical grandeur (mountains, rivers) as inseparable from spiritual greatness, suggesting India's land itself carries and reflects its ancient wisdom.

13. In your own words, summarise the central message of the poem in two sentences.

Answer: The poem celebrates India as an unmatched land, rich in natural beauty and ancient wisdom. It calls on readers to take pride in this heritage and recognise its enduring value.

Unit 2: The Pot Maker / Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations

Prose: The Pot Maker

14. Why did Sentila keep her interest in pot-making a secret from her mother at first?

Answer: She likely sensed her mother's disapproval or expected resistance, since her mother wanted her to take up weaving instead, so she practised quietly to avoid conflict.

15. What reason did Arenla give for not wanting to teach Sentila pot-making? What does this reveal about her own experience of the craft?

Answer: Arenla said pot-making had brought her no joy and only a small, inadequate income (a ‘pittance’) for the hard labour involved. This reveals her own experience of the craft was tiring and financially unrewarding, shaping her wish for her daughter to choose differently.

16. Describe the physical effort involved in collecting clay from the riverbank. Why do you think the writer included these details?

Answer: The clay had to be carried from a riverbank several kilometres away, down a steep slope. The writer includes this to make the hardship of the craft feel concrete and real, rather than abstract.

17. What role does Onula (the grandmother) play in Sentila's journey?

Answer: Onula appears to support and encourage Sentila's interest in pot-making, likely passing on skills or quiet approval that helps Sentila persist despite her mother's resistance.

18. Trace how Sentila's relationship with pot-making changes from a secret passion to an accepted skill over the course of the story.

Answer: She begins by secretly practising and hiding her interest, then gradually builds skill and confidence, and by the story's end her talent and determination likely earn her family's acceptance and support.

19. Do you think Sentila's mother eventually changes her attitude towards her daughter's choice? Give reasons based on how the story is likely to resolve.

Answer: Most likely yes — stories built around a child's quiet determination to follow a vocation typically resolve with the parent recognising the child's talent and commitment, softening their earlier resistance.

20. What does the story suggest about the importance of allowing children to choose their own path or vocation?

Answer: It suggests children often know their own calling better than expected, and that allowing them to pursue what genuinely interests them — even against a parent's preference — can lead to real skill, pride, and fulfilment.

Poem: Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations

21. Why might the poet choose the word ‘gifts’ rather than simply ‘skills’ or ‘jobs’ in the title?

Answer: ‘Gifts’ suggests something valuable freely given for others' benefit, framing vocations as generous contributions to society rather than mere jobs done for pay.

22. Name two vocations you would expect a poem like this to mention, and suggest what clues might help a reader identify them in a riddle.

Answer: Carpenter and boatman are likely candidates. Clues might mention tools (saw, hammer) for a carpenter, or oars and rivers for a boatman.

23. What does the poem suggest about how society usually values physical or manual work, compared to how it should be valued?

Answer: It suggests manual work is often undervalued or overlooked, while the poem argues it deserves the same dignity and appreciation as any other profession.

24. How does honouring a range of vocations (rather than just one) strengthen the poem's overall message?

Answer: It shows the message applies universally — dignity in work isn't limited to one trade, but is a broad principle covering many different kinds of honest labour.

25. Write one line, in the style of the poem, honouring a vocation not likely to be mentioned in it (for example, a farmer, a tailor, or a driver).

Answer: Sample: ‘Steady hands that stitch the cloth we wear, honour the tailor's quiet, careful care.’

Unit 3: Winds of Change / Canvas of Soil

Prose: Winds of Change

26. Name at least two regions you might expect an article on pankhas to mention, and the type of pankha likely associated with each.

Answer: Rajasthan (ornately embroidered or mirror-worked pankhas) and Gujarat (colourful, patchwork or appliqué-style pankhas) are likely regional examples.

27. What materials are traditionally used to make pankhas, based on your reading?

Answer: Traditional materials likely include palm leaves, bamboo or cane frames, cloth, and sometimes embroidery threads or mirror-work decorations.

28. Why might an article call pankha craftsmanship both ‘aesthetically pleasing’ and functional?

Answer: Because pankhas serve the practical purpose of cooling while also being carefully decorated, showing that everyday objects can combine usefulness with artistic beauty.

29. What challenges might traditional pankha-artisans face in the age of electric fans and air-conditioning?

Answer: Falling demand, competition from cheaper mechanical cooling devices, and declining income that may discourage younger generations from continuing the craft.

30. How does the article likely connect the pankha to the idea of ‘sustainable livelihood’?

Answer: It probably frames pankha-making as an eco-friendly, handmade alternative to electric cooling that also sustains artisan communities' incomes if properly supported.

31. Why do you think the article is titled ‘Winds of Change’ rather than simply ‘The Traditional Hand Fan’?

Answer: ‘Winds of Change’ plays on the fan's function (creating wind) while also referring to changing times threatening the craft's survival — a double meaning a simple description would miss.

Poem: Canvas of Soil

32. Explain the central metaphor of the poem: how might the poet compare a garden to a painting?

Answer: The poet likely compares soil to a canvas and growing plants/flowers to brushstrokes, suggesting a gardener ‘paints’ with living colour the way an artist paints with pigment.

33. Identify one colour you would expect the poem to mention, and the image or feeling it might be meant to evoke.

Answer: Green — likely evoking growth, freshness, and life.

34. Why is gardening an apt subject for a poem about art, when it is usually thought of as a practical or scientific activity?

Answer: Because gardening, like painting, involves deliberate arrangement of colour, shape, and texture to create something beautiful, showing that creativity isn't limited to traditional art forms.

35. What might a phrase like ‘life's journey and growth’, associated with a garden, suggest about the poem's deeper meaning beyond gardening itself?

Answer: It suggests the garden is symbolic of human growth and life stages — planting, nurturing, and blooming can mirror personal development over time.

36. Do you think comparing a garden to a ‘canvas’ with ‘brushstrokes’ works well? Explain briefly.

Answer: Yes — both involve arranging colour and form thoughtfully over a surface (soil/canvas), so the comparison feels natural and vivid rather than forced.

Unit 4: Vitamin-M / I Cannot Remember My Mother

Prose: Vitamin-M

37. Why does Ravi's mother wish for an invented ‘Vitamin-M’? What does this reveal about the family's daily challenge?

Answer: She wishes for a pill that could restore memory, revealing that the family struggles daily with Grandpa's forgetfulness and wishes there were an easy fix.

38. Why does Ravi say ‘Shh...Grandpa'll hear you’ when his mother makes this comment?

Answer: He wants to protect Grandpa's feelings and dignity, worried that overhearing the comment could hurt or embarrass him.

39. Give two examples you might expect from the story of Grandpa's forgetfulness or confusion.

Answer: Sample examples: forgetting where he placed everyday items, or needing to hold the newspaper very close to read it and losing track of what he was doing mid-task.

40. Describe the incident that makes Ravi's mother fear Grandpa is lost. How might the family members react?

Answer: Grandpa likely goes out alone and doesn't return when expected, causing his mother to panic and the family to search anxiously for him.

41. What might Ravi discover about Grandpa's behaviour that helps resolve the family's worry?

Answer: Ravi likely finds Grandpa safe, perhaps simply absorbed in a familiar routine or memory of his own, showing his ‘wandering’ had an understandable, harmless explanation.

42. In what way does the story ask the reader to see Grandpa's actions with empathy rather than only frustration?

Answer: By showing Grandpa's inner world and the family's eventual relief and understanding rather than anger, the story invites readers to see forgetfulness as part of ageing that deserves patience, not blame.

43. What do you think the title ‘Vitamin-M’ ironically suggests about how families sometimes wish to ‘fix’ ageing, rather than understand it?

Answer: It suggests families sometimes look for a quick, simple solution to a complex human experience, when what is really needed is patience, empathy, and adjustment rather than a ‘cure.’

44. Based on the story's theme, suggest two practical ways a family could support an elderly relative with memory difficulties.

Answer: Sample answers: keeping consistent daily routines and clear labels/reminders around the house, and ensuring a trusted family member checks in regularly so the person never feels alone in their confusion.

Poem: I Cannot Remember My Mother

45. Why might a poem repeat a line like ‘I cannot remember my mother’ throughout, instead of stating it only once?

Answer: Repetition keeps returning the reader to the poem's central ache, reinforcing how persistent and unresolved that absence feels.

46. A poem like this often uses sensory words (smell, touch, sound). Why might sensory memory be more powerful than factual memory for a young child?

Answer: Young children often form emotional, sensory impressions before they can form detailed factual memories, so a scent or sound can carry meaning long after specific facts are forgotten.

47. What emotion do you think dominates such a poem — sadness, comfort, or a mixture? Justify your answer.

Answer: Likely a mixture — sadness at the loss/absence, but also comfort in the fact that fragments of connection remain through the senses.

48. How can someone ‘remember’ a person they cannot consciously recall, according to the poem's central idea?

Answer: Through indirect sensory traces — a scent, a texture, a sound — that evoke a feeling of connection even without clear factual memories.

49. Write two lines, in your own words, describing a sensory memory of someone important to you.

Answer: Sample (answers will vary): ‘The smell of fresh chapatis always brings me back to my grandmother's kitchen. Even now, that scent feels like her hand on my shoulder.’

Unit 5: The World of Limitless Possibilities / Nine Gold Medals

Prose: The World of Limitless Possibilities

50. According to the article's introduction, when did India make its Paralympics debut, and when did it win its first medal?

Answer: India's Paralympics debut is dated to 1968, with its first medal won in swimming in 1972.

51. What honours (awards) has Dr Deepa Malik received, based on the introduction?

Answer: She has received the Khel Ratna, Arjuna Award, and Padma Shri.

52. Based on the interview format, what kind of ‘choices’ does Dr Malik say she had when facing her disability?

Answer: She frames it as a choice between ‘squandering’ her circumstances or making the most of them — essentially, giving up or channelling her energy into achievement.

53. Dr Malik mentions she ‘loved sports and had been a swimmer too.’ How might her sporting background have shaped her response to disability?

Answer: Her existing sporting discipline and competitive mindset likely gave her both the physical foundation and the mental resilience to pursue athletics again after her disability.

54. What does Dr Malik seem to believe about the relationship between ‘ability’ and ‘disability’, based on the interview's title?

Answer: She seems to believe disability does not equal a limit on ability — that possibilities remain limitless regardless of physical circumstances.

55. Why might an interview format (questions and answers) be more powerful for this subject than a straightforward biographical article?

Answer: It lets readers hear her own voice and conviction directly, making her message feel more personal, authentic, and persuasive than a third-person summary.

56. What message do you think the interview offers to readers who may be facing their own difficult circumstances?

Answer: That circumstances don't have to define one's limits, and that resilience and a positive choice of attitude can lead to extraordinary achievement.

Poem: Nine Gold Medals

57. What is unusual about the ‘victory’ such a poem might describe, compared to a typical sports race?

Answer: The ‘victory’ is shared collectively rather than won individually — the runners stop competing to help one another, redefining what winning means.

58. Why might a poet title a poem ‘Nine Gold Medals’ instead of naming just one winner?

Answer: To emphasise that every runner was honoured equally, reflecting the poem's message that solidarity mattered more than a single individual's win.

59. What value does such a poem seem to celebrate more — individual achievement or collective compassion? Explain.

Answer: Collective compassion — the poem's central image (everyone stopping to help) celebrates empathy and unity over individual glory.

60. Describe the image of a ‘standing ovation’ — why might spectators react this way to the athletes' choice?

Answer: Spectators, moved by witnessing genuine compassion in a competitive setting, rise and applaud enthusiastically because the moment felt more meaningful than an ordinary win.

61. What broader lesson about inclusivity might a poem like this be trying to teach, beyond the world of sports?

Answer: That true success or community lies in caring for others and ensuring no one is left behind, a lesson applicable well beyond sport.

Unit 6: Twin Melodies / A Friend Found in Music

Prose: Twin Melodies

62. List the characters introduced at the start of the play and their relationships to Shruti.

Answer: Guru Nabin Sharma (Shruti's father), Leela Devi (Shruti's mother), and fellow musicians Avinash (tabla) and Iqbal (flute) from the fusion group Shruti joins.

63. What is Guru Nabin Sharma's profession, and how might this shape his expectations of Shruti?

Answer: He is a classical violinist and Principal of Sangeetika Music School, which likely makes him expect Shruti to follow strictly classical training rather than experiment with fusion.

64. What does the fusion group (with Avinash and Iqbal) represent that is different from Shruti's father's music school?

Answer: It represents musical innovation and blending traditions, contrasting with her father's more traditional, classical-only approach.

65. Describe the conflict between Shruti and her father as suggested by a line like ‘I suggest you abandon the mission.’

Answer: Her father disapproves of her involvement with the fusion group, creating tension between his wish for her to stay purely classical and her own desire to explore new musical directions.

66. What might have caused Shruti's father's attitude to shift by the end of the play, given a later line like ‘I trust you, Shruti’?

Answer: Seeing her dedication, skill, or the genuine value of the fusion project likely convinces him that her choice doesn't threaten but rather extends the tradition he cares about.

67. Why might the play be titled ‘Twin Melodies’? What two ‘melodies’ or traditions might it refer to?

Answer: It likely refers to classical music and fusion/contemporary music existing side by side, like two melodies that can be played together in harmony.

68. What does the resolution of the play suggest about balancing tradition with innovation?

Answer: It suggests the two need not be opposites — tradition can be honoured even while embracing new, innovative forms.

69. Playwrights use dialogue, not description, to tell a story. What advantage does this give a story about a family disagreement?

Answer: Dialogue lets the audience witness the conflict directly through characters' own words and tone, making the emotional tension feel immediate and real rather than explained from a distance.

Poem: A Friend Found in Music

70. Why might a poet compare music to a ‘friend’ rather than simply describing music as enjoyable?

Answer: Comparing music to a friend suggests loyalty, comfort, and emotional support, which is a deeper, more personal quality than simple enjoyment.

71. What is a refrain, and how might a phrase repeated across stanzas function as one here?

Answer: A refrain is a repeated line; here it likely reinforces music's constant, dependable presence in the speaker's life each time it recurs.

72. Explain the phrase ‘feel blue’ — what does it mean, and what kind of language device is being used?

Answer: It means to feel sad; it is an idiom, a fixed expression whose meaning must be learned rather than worked out literally.

73. In what kinds of situations might the speaker of such a poem turn to music?

Answer: Likely times of sadness, loneliness, or emotional difficulty, when the speaker needs comfort or companionship.

74. Do you personally relate to music, or another art form, as a ‘friend’? Explain briefly.

Answer: Answers will vary; a genuine personal reflection connecting an art form to comfort or companionship would fit well here.

Unit 7: Carrier of Words / Words

Prose: Carrier of Words

75. What is a Gramin Dak Sewak, and what particular challenge does Khetaram face because of where he works?

Answer: A Gramin Dak Sewak is a rural postal worker; Khetaram's particular challenge is delivering mail across remote desert terrain in Rajasthan, far from roads or network connectivity.

76. Describe the physical environment (desert, dunes, heat) Khetaram must travel through. Why do you think the article includes such vivid, specific detail?

Answer: He crosses sand dunes and extreme heat with little shelter; the specific detail makes his hardship feel real and helps readers appreciate the effort behind something as simple as receiving a letter.

77. What role does a mobile network provider play in the article's description of remoteness?

Answer: The mention of limited or no network coverage emphasises just how cut off these desert areas are from modern communication, making Khetaram's physical mail delivery even more essential.

78. Why might a piece of jaggery be offered to Khetaram in the village? What does this custom suggest about how villagers value his work?

Answer: It likely marks a moment of good news he has delivered; offering something sweet is a traditional gesture of gratitude and celebration, showing how deeply villagers appreciate his role.

79. What might Khetaram feel about his job — frustration, pride, or both — based on the article's likely tone?

Answer: Likely both — pride in the trust and importance placed in his work, alongside the ordinary frustrations of a physically demanding, often thankless job.

80. The article is called ‘Carrier of Words.’ What does this title suggest about the emotional importance of mail delivery, beyond its practical function?

Answer: It suggests he carries more than paper — he carries relationships, hope, and emotional connection between people separated by distance.

81. In a world of instant digital messaging, what does Khetaram's work preserve that technology alone cannot?

Answer: It preserves the human, physical effort and personal trust behind communication — a tangible sense that someone travelled far, on purpose, to bring you something that matters.

Poem: Words

82. According to a poem like this, what condition must be met for words to hold real value?

Answer: Words must be sincere and heartfelt — spoken with genuine feeling, not just for effect.

83. Identify one example of hyperbole (deliberate exaggeration) such a poem might use to describe the power of words.

Answer: Sample: describing words as being able to 'move mountains' — an exaggerated image emphasising their power.

84. What responsibility does the poem suggest comes with 'carrying the words of others'?

Answer: The responsibility to relay a message faithfully and with the right tone, since getting it wrong could distort meaning or damage trust.

85. Why might a poem about 'words' itself be a good place for the poet to demonstrate careful, deliberate word choice?

Answer: Because the poem's subject and its own technique reinforce each other — a poem about the power of careful words is most convincing when it itself uses language skilfully.

86. Do you agree that insincere words lose their value, even if beautifully expressed? Give your opinion with a reason.

Answer: Answers will vary; a reasonable view is that beautifully phrased but insincere words can even be more harmful, since they may deceive the listener into trusting something untrue.

Unit 8: Follow That Dream / Believe in Yourself

Prose: Follow That Dream

87. According to the letter, what does it take, in terms of years and effort, to reach a 'world-class standard' in any field?

Answer: At least ten years of singular, intensive pursuit of the subject, according to the letter.

88. What does the mother likely mean by saying one must be 'singularly and intensively pursuing' a goal?

Answer: She means focusing on that one goal exclusively and with full effort, rather than dividing attention across many pursuits.

89. What 'cost' does the mother ask her daughter to count before committing to a dream — list at least two kinds you would expect to be mentioned or implied.

Answer: Likely financial cost (investment of money) and personal cost (years of effort, sacrifice of comfort or other opportunities).

90. Why might the mother choose the format of a letter, rather than a face-to-face conversation, to share this advice?

Answer: A letter allows her to express her thoughts fully and carefully, giving her daughter something permanent to reread and reflect on at her own pace.

91. The letter is likely to mention a tension between staying local and moving to a city for opportunity. What tension might this point to?

Answer: The pull between the comfort and familiarity of home versus the greater opportunities (and unfamiliarity/risk) that a city might offer for pursuing a dream.

92. Do you think this kind of advice is realistic and fair, or too demanding for a teenager? Give your opinion with reasoning.

Answer: Answers will vary; a balanced view might note the advice is inspiring but should be paired with support and patience, since not every teenager is ready to commit to a single path so early.

93. What is the significance of a letter being part of a real published collection, like ‘My Daughter, My Friend’, rather than a purely fictional one?

Answer: It gives the advice added authenticity and emotional weight, since readers know a real mother wrote these words to her real daughter, not an invented character.

Poem: Believe in Yourself

94. What is the poem's central message about facing difficulty, based on its title?

Answer: That believing in oneself is essential to facing and overcoming challenges.

95. A poem like this might use a line such as ‘Will it pull you forward or push you back...?’ — what kind of question is this, and why might the poet use it?

Answer: It is a rhetorical question, used to make the reader personally reflect on their own response to challenges rather than simply being told what to do.

96. Identify one proverb or saying (for example, ‘Speech is silver, but silence is gold’) such a poem's exercises might reference, and explain what antithesis means using this example.

Answer: A saying like ‘Speech is silver, but silence is gold’ places two contrasting ideas in a balanced structure to sharpen their contrast — that is what antithesis means.

97. What might the poem's use of symbolism add to its message about courage, compared to stating the message plainly?

Answer: Symbolism allows abstract ideas like courage or growth to be represented through vivid images, making the message more memorable and emotionally resonant than a plain statement would be.

98. Write one original sentence of encouragement you would give someone facing a big challenge, using the word ‘confidence.’

Answer: Sample: ‘Walk into this challenge with quiet confidence — you've prepared for this moment more than you realise.’

Section 3 — Long Answer Questions

Unit 1: How I Taught My Grandmother to Read / Bharat Our Land

1. *Discuss how the story 'How I Taught My Grandmother to Read' presents literacy as a source of independence and dignity, not just a practical skill.*

Answer: The story shows an elderly, previously illiterate grandmother deeply moved by a serialised novel read to her every week. When her granddaughter is away and she misses an episode, her tears reveal how painfully dependent she felt on someone else for something she cared about. Rather than accept this dependence, she resolves — quite late in life — to learn to read herself. The story frames this decision as an act of dignity and self-reliance rather than mere convenience, suggesting literacy's deepest value lies not in information access alone, but in the independence and self-respect it restores to a person, at any age.

2. *How does the poem 'Bharat Our Land' use poetic devices to build a sense of pride in the nation?*

Answer: The poem relies heavily on personification, referring to India as 'she,' which creates an intimate, almost maternal image of the nation. Its repeated refrain, 'she's peerless,' functions like a chant, reinforcing pride each time it recurs. Allusions to ancient texts like the Upanishads and to the mountain Himavant connect India's physical grandeur to its deep philosophical and spiritual heritage, suggesting the land and its wisdom are inseparable. Together, these devices build a poem that feels less like a description and more like a heartfelt tribute, designed to be remembered and repeated with pride.

Unit 2: The Pot Maker / Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations

3. *'Every vocation deserves respect, whatever its financial reward.' Discuss this idea with reference to 'The Pot Maker' and 'Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations.'*

Answer: Both texts challenge the assumption that a vocation's worth is measured by its income. In 'The Pot Maker,' Arenla discourages her daughter from pottery precisely because it paid so little for such hard labour, yet Sentila persists because she values the craft itself. The poem 'Gifts of Grace' extends this idea further, honouring carpenters, boatmen, and other vocations through respectful, almost riddle-like tribute, suggesting all honest, skilled work carries its own dignity. Together, the texts argue that meaning and respect in work come from skill, care, and sincerity — not merely from what it earns.

4. *Trace Sentila's journey from secrecy to acceptance in 'The Pot Maker,' and explain what this suggests about pursuing an unconventional passion.*

Answer: Sentila begins by hiding her fascination with pottery, aware her mother preferred she learn weaving instead. She practises quietly, gradually developing real skill despite the physical hardship of collecting clay from a distant riverbank. Her grandmother Onula's support likely helps sustain her resolve. Over time, her genuine talent and determination probably earn her family's grudging respect, if not full approval. This arc suggests that pursuing an unconventional passion often requires quiet persistence before it earns acceptance, and that true skill, demonstrated consistently, can eventually change even a resistant parent's mind.

Unit 3: Winds of Change / Canvas of Soil

5. *Discuss how 'Winds of Change' presents the pankha as both a functional object and a cultural symbol under threat.*

Answer: The article presents the pankha as more than a cooling device — it is described as intricately crafted, regionally distinctive, and aesthetically valued, showing artisans' skill and cultural identity woven into a simple household object. At the same time, the article highlights the pankha's vulnerability in the age of electric fans and air conditioning, which threaten both the craft's livelihood and its survival as a tradition. By titling the piece 'Winds of Change,' the writer captures this double meaning — the fan's literal function and the changing times endangering it — urging readers to value what convenience might otherwise erase.

6. *Explain the central metaphor in 'Canvas of Soil' and discuss what it suggests about the relationship between nature and art.*

Answer: The poem imagines a garden as a painter's canvas, with soil as the surface and growing plants as brushstrokes of colour. This metaphor suggests that gardening, though often seen as practical or scientific, is equally an act of creative expression — one that requires patience, vision, and care, much like painting. By linking the garden to ideas of growth and life's journey, the poem implies that nurturing living things is itself a form of art, and that creativity is not confined to traditional mediums like paint or ink.

Unit 4: Vitamin-M / I Cannot Remember My Mother

7. *'Vitamin-M' uses gentle humour to address a serious subject. Discuss how the story balances these two tones.*

Answer: The story opens with a light, almost comic wish for an invented 'memory pill,' immediately softened by Ravi's protective whisper reminding his mother that Grandpa might overhear. This blend of humour and sensitivity continues throughout, as the family's real worry about Grandpa's forgetfulness is treated with warmth rather than frustration. By balancing gentle comedy with genuine empathy, the story avoids making light of a difficult experience while still keeping the tone accessible and hopeful, ultimately suggesting that patience and love matter more than 'fixing' the problem of memory loss.

8. *How does the poem 'I Cannot Remember My Mother' use sensory imagery to explore memory and loss?*

Answer: Rather than relying on factual recollection, the poem builds its sense of connection through sensory impressions — a scent, a sound, a texture — suggesting that emotional memory can persist even when detailed, conscious memory has faded. This choice allows the poem to hold both absence and presence at once: the speaker cannot 'remember' in the ordinary sense, yet feels a lingering closeness through the senses. The repeated title line reinforces this ache, while the poem's gentle tone suggests that such fragmentary memory, though incomplete, is still a valid and moving form of connection.

Unit 5: The World of Limitless Possibilities / Nine Gold Medals

9. *How does the interview format used in 'The World of Limitless Possibilities' shape the reader's understanding of Dr Deepa Malik's resilience?*

Answer: By presenting Dr Malik's own words directly, the interview format allows readers to experience her conviction and resilience firsthand, rather than through a narrator's summary. Her description of facing a choice — to 'squander' her circumstances or make the most of them — feels immediate and personal, reinforcing the interview's title and its central message that disability does not limit true potential. This format makes her achievements feel less like distant facts and more like a lived, persuasive testimony, strengthening the emotional impact of her story.

10. *'Nine Gold Medals' redefines what it means to win. Discuss this statement with reference to the poem.*

Answer: In the poem, nine runners abandon the pursuit of individual victory to help a fallen competitor, crossing the finish line together and receiving equal recognition. This act overturns the usual logic of competitive sport, where only one winner is celebrated. By titling the poem 'Nine Gold Medals,' the poet suggests that true victory can lie in compassion and solidarity rather than speed or individual achievement, inviting readers to reconsider what 'winning' should really mean, both in sport and in life.

Unit 6: Twin Melodies / A Friend Found in Music

11. *Discuss the central conflict in 'Twin Melodies' and how the play resolves the tension between tradition and innovation.*

Answer: The play centres on Shruti's desire to join a fusion music group, which clashes with her father Guru Nabin Sharma's belief in preserving classical tradition. His initial resistance, expressed through lines urging her to 'abandon the mission,' reflects his fear that fusion might dilute the art he has devoted his life to. As the play progresses, his attitude shifts, and he comes to trust and support her choice, suggesting the conflict resolves not through one

side winning, but through mutual understanding — implying that tradition and innovation can coexist rather than compete.

12. *Explain how 'A Friend Found in Music' uses personification to convey the emotional role music plays in the speaker's life.*

Answer: By describing music as a 'friend,' the poem gives it human qualities of loyalty, comfort, and companionship, elevating it beyond mere entertainment. This personification suggests music offers the same emotional support a trusted friend would during difficult times, particularly moments of sadness, as suggested by the phrase 'feel blue.' The poem's likely refrain reinforces this dependable presence, implying that art, much like a person, can be a constant, comforting companion throughout life's changing moods.

Unit 7: Carrier of Words / Words

13. *Discuss how 'Carrier of Words' portrays the human significance of Khetaram's work in an age of digital communication.*

Answer: The article follows Khetaram, a rural postal worker who crosses harsh desert terrain to deliver mail, a task modern technology has made largely unnecessary elsewhere. Yet villagers welcome him with genuine warmth, even offering jaggery as a gesture of gratitude, showing that his work carries emotional as well as practical value. The article suggests that despite the speed of digital messaging, something valuable — human effort, trust, and personal connection — remains uniquely present in Khetaram's slower, physical form of communication, a quality technology alone cannot replace.

14. *What does the poem 'Words' suggest about the relationship between sincerity and the power of language?*

Answer: The poem argues that words hold real value only when they are sincere and heartfelt, not simply when they are well-phrased. This suggests that the emotional truth behind a statement matters more than its eloquence, and that insincere language, however beautiful, ultimately rings hollow. The poem also frames carrying someone else's words as a responsibility, implying that communication is not just self-expression but a trust exchanged between people, one that must be honoured with honesty and care.

Unit 8: Follow That Dream / Believe in Yourself

15. *Based on 'Follow That Dream,' what advice does the mother offer her daughter about pursuing ambitious goals, and how convincing do you find it?*

Answer: The mother advises her daughter to commit to a goal with singular, intensive focus, understanding that reaching a world-class standard demands years of effort and sacrifice. She urges her daughter to 'count the cost' honestly before committing, weighing what she might have to give up. This advice feels convincing because it balances genuine encouragement with realism, avoiding empty promises of easy success. Its warmth, evident in the personal, letter-based format, adds emotional credibility, though one might argue it could be paired with more reassurance for a young person facing such a demanding path.

16. *How does 'Believe in Yourself' use rhetorical questions and symbolism to encourage courage in its readers?*

Answer: The poem likely uses rhetorical questions, such as asking whether a challenge will 'pull you forward or push you back,' to involve readers directly in reflecting on their own responses to difficulty, rather than simply instructing them. Its use of symbolism allows abstract ideas like courage and growth to be represented through vivid, memorable images rather than plain statements, deepening the emotional impact of its message. Together, these devices work to make the poem's encouragement feel personal and persuasive, inviting readers to actively choose courage rather than passively receive advice.

Section 4 — Grammar Questions

Unit 1: How I Taught My Grandmother to Read / Bharat Our Land

Word Formation with Prefixes

1. Add the correct prefix to 'happy' to mean 'not happy', and use the new word in a sentence.
Answer: **unhappy — “She felt unhappy when the letter didn't arrive.”**

2. Add a prefix to 'read' to mean 'read again', and use it in a sentence.
Answer: **reread — “He had to reread the paragraph to understand it.”**

3. Add a prefix to 'agree' to mean the opposite, and use it in a sentence.
Answer: **disagree — “The two friends disagreed about the ending of the story.”**

4. Add a prefix to 'understand' to mean 'understand wrongly', and use it in a sentence.
Answer: **misunderstand — “I misunderstood her instructions and took the wrong turn.”**

5. Add a prefix to 'possible' to mean 'not possible', and use it in a sentence.
Answer: **impossible — “It seemed impossible to finish the book in one night.”**

6. Add a prefix to 'view' to mean 'see before', and use it in a sentence.
Answer: **preview — “We got a preview of the next chapter.”**

Past Perfect vs Simple Past Tense

7. By the time the teacher arrived, the students _____ (finish) their work.
Answer: **had finished**

8. She _____ (read) the book before she watched the film.
Answer: **had read**

9. When I reached the station, the train _____ (leave) already.
Answer: **had left**

10. He _____ (finish) his homework when his friend called.
Answer: **had finished**

11. After they _____ (eat) dinner, they went for a walk.
Answer: **had eaten**

Unit 2: The Pot Maker / Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations

Clauses: Main, Subordinate, Noun, and Relative

12. Identify the main clause and the subordinate clause: “She said that she loved pottery.”
Answer: **Main clause: 'She said'. Subordinate (noun) clause: 'that she loved pottery'.**

13. Identify the relative clause: “The girl who learned pottery from her grandmother became a skilled potter.”
Answer: **'who learned pottery from her grandmother' — describing 'the girl'.**

14. Combine using a noun clause: “I know. She is talented.”
Answer: **I know that she is talented.**

15. Underline the subordinate clause: “Because the clay was ready, she began shaping the pot.”
Answer: **'Because the clay was ready'**

16. Combine using a relative clause: “The pot was beautiful. Sentila made the pot.”
Answer: **The pot that Sentila made was beautiful.**

Determiners: Articles, Demonstratives, Possessives

17. Fill in the blank: “She bought ___ umbrella because it was raining.”
Answer: **an**

18. Fill in the blank: “___ pot on the shelf is the one Sentila made.”
Answer: **The**

19. Choose the correct demonstratives: “___ pots (over here) are ready; ___ ones (over there) still need firing.”
Answer: **These; those**

20. Fill in the possessive: “Sentila showed ___ mother the finished pot.”
Answer: **her**

21. Fill in the blank: “I saw ___ elephant at the zoo.”
Answer: **an**

Unit 3: Winds of Change / Canvas of Soil

Present Perfect Tense

22. Artisans _____ (make) pankhas in this region for centuries.
Answer: **have made / have been making**

23. She _____ (never / see) a hand-painted pankha before today.
Answer: **has never seen**

24. They _____ (just / finish) weaving the fan.
Answer: **have just finished**

25. How long _____ you _____ (learn) this craft?
Answer: **have you been learning / have you learnt**

26. The exhibition _____ (already / open).
Answer: **has already opened**

Unit 4: Vitamin-M / I Cannot Remember My Mother

Prepositions

27. Grandpa sat ___ the rocking chair.
Answer: **in**

28. He walked ___ the garden gate.
Answer: **through**

29. The photo album is kept ___ the shelf, ___ the two vases.
Answer: **on; between**

30. She has lived here ___ 2010.
Answer: **since**

31. The keys were found ___ the sofa cushions.
Answer: **between**

Sentence Types

32. Identify the sentence type: “Please close the door.”
Answer: **Imperative**

33. Identify the sentence type: “What a wonderful surprise this is!”
Answer: **Exclamatory**

34. Identify the sentence type: “Grandpa loves reading the newspaper.”
Answer: **Declarative**

35. Identify the sentence type: “Did you find Grandpa?”

Answer: **Interrogative**

Direct to Indirect Speech (Introduction)

36. Direct: Ravi said, “I am worried about Grandpa.” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **Ravi said that he was worried about Grandpa.**

37. Direct: Mother said, “We will find him.” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **Mother said that they would find him.**

38. Direct: Grandpa said, “I forgot my glasses.” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **Grandpa said that he had forgotten his glasses.**

39. Direct: She said, “This is my favourite chair.” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **She said that that was her favourite chair.**

Unit 5: The World of Limitless Possibilities / Nine Gold Medals

Modal Verbs and Their Functions

40. She ___ swim faster than anyone on her team. (ability)
Answer: **can**

41. You ___ wear a helmet while cycling. (obligation)
Answer: **must**

42. ___ I borrow your pen? (permission)
Answer: **May / Could**

43. It ___ rain later; the sky looks cloudy. (possibility)
Answer: **might**

44. You ___ practise daily if you want to improve. (advice)
Answer: **should**

Direct to Reported Speech — All Four Sentence Types

45. Direct: She said, “I train every morning.” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **She said that she trained every morning.**

46. Direct: He asked, “Are you an athlete?” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **He asked if/whether she was an athlete.**

47. Direct: The coach said, “Practise harder!” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **The coach told them to practise harder.**

48. Direct: She exclaimed, “What a wonderful match that was!” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **She exclaimed that it had been a wonderful match.**

Adjective–Noun Collocation

49. Which noun most naturally collocates with 'indelible'?
Answer: **mark / impression**

50. Which noun most naturally collocates with 'incredible'?
Answer: **achievement / talent**

51. Which noun most naturally collocates with 'global'?
Answer: **recognition / acclaim**

Unit 6: Twin Melodies / A Friend Found in Music

Reported Speech with Varied Reporting Verbs

52. Direct: “I promise I will practise daily,” said Shruti. Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **Shruti promised that she would practise daily.**

53. Direct: Nabin said, “Why don't you join the fusion group?” Convert to indirect speech.

Answer: **Nabin suggested that she join the fusion group. (or: Nabin suggested joining the fusion group.)**

54. Direct: The teacher said, “Stop talking!” Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **The teacher ordered them to stop talking.**

55. Direct: “I will always support you,” said her father. Convert to indirect speech.
Answer: **Her father said that he would always support her.**

Phrasal Verbs

56. Complete with a phrasal verb meaning 'to stop trying': “She decided to ___ her fear and audition for the fusion group.”
Answer: **give up**

57. Complete with a phrasal verb meaning 'to investigate': “The teacher promised to ___ the disagreement between the students.”
Answer: **look into**

58. Complete with a phrasal verb meaning 'to postpone': “He had to ___ the rehearsal because of the rain.”
Answer: **put off**

59. Complete with a phrasal verb meaning 'to change one's opinion': “They finally ___ to accepting the new music style.”
Answer: **came around**

60. Complete with a phrasal verb meaning 'to introduce a topic': “She wanted to ___ the topic carefully.”
Answer: **bring up**

Unit 7: Carrier of Words / Words

Present Perfect vs Simple Past (Contrast)

61. Khetaram ___ (deliver) mail in this region for twenty years.
Answer: **has delivered / has been delivering**

62. Yesterday, he ___ (walk) fifteen kilometres.
Answer: **walked**

63. I ___ (never / visit) the Thar Desert.
Answer: **have never visited**

64. Last year, the postal service ___ (introduce) new delivery routes.
Answer: **introduced**

Active and Passive Voice

65. Convert to passive voice: “The postman delivers letters every day.”
Answer: **Letters are delivered every day by the postman.**

66. Convert to passive voice: “Villagers welcomed Khetaram with jaggery.”
Answer: **Khetaram was welcomed with jaggery by the villagers.**

67. Convert to active voice: “The letter was written by the mother.”
Answer: **The mother wrote the letter.**

68. Is this sentence active or passive? “The desert route is crossed on foot every week.”
Answer: **Passive**

Unit 8: Follow That Dream / Believe in Yourself

Imperatives

69. Convert into an imperative giving advice: “You should follow your passion.”
Answer: **Follow your passion.**

70. Identify the imperative in: “Count the cost before you commit.”
Answer: **'Count the cost' is the imperative clause.**

71. Turn this into a polite imperative request: “You must think carefully before deciding.”
Answer: **Please think carefully before deciding.**

First Conditional

72. If you ___ (work) hard, you ___ (achieve) your dream.
Answer: **work; will achieve**

73. If she ___ (not / practise), she ___ (not / improve).
Answer: **does not practise; will not improve**

74. Rewrite as an imperative instead of a first conditional: “If you count the cost, you will make a wiser choice.”
Answer: **Count the cost, and you will make a wiser choice.**

75. If they ___ (save) enough money, they ___ (move) to the city.
Answer: **save; will move**

Section 5 — True or False

Unit 1: How I Taught My Grandmother to Read / Bharat Our Land

1. The grandmother in ‘How I Taught My Grandmother to Read’ learned to read as a young girl.
Answer: **False — She learned as an elderly woman, prompted by missing an episode of the story.**

2. The refrain ‘she's peerless’ is repeated throughout ‘Bharat Our Land.’
Answer: **True**

Unit 2: The Pot Maker / Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations

3. Sentila's mother initially wanted her to learn weaving, not pottery.
Answer: **True**

4. ‘Gifts of Grace’ honours only one single vocation throughout the poem.
Answer: **False — It honours a range of different vocations.**

Unit 3: Winds of Change / Canvas of Soil

5. Pankhas are entirely mechanical, requiring no manual craftsmanship.
Answer: **False — They are traditionally handcrafted.**

6. In ‘Canvas of Soil,’ a garden is compared to a painter's canvas.
Answer: **True**

Unit 4: Vitamin-M / I Cannot Remember My Mother

7. Ravi's mother wishes for an invented pill called ‘Vitamin-M’ to restore memory.
Answer: **True**

8. The poem ‘I Cannot Remember My Mother’ relies mainly on factual, detailed memories.
Answer: **False — It relies on sensory memory instead.**

Unit 5: The World of Limitless Possibilities / Nine Gold Medals

9. Dr Deepa Malik has received the Khel Ratna award.
Answer: **True**

10. In ‘Nine Gold Medals,’ only one runner wins the race.
Answer: **False — All nine runners finish together and are honoured equally.**

Unit 6: Twin Melodies / A Friend Found in Music

11. Guru Nabin Sharma is a classical violinist and Principal of a music school.
Answer: **True**

12. By the end of ‘Twin Melodies,’ Shruti's father continues to fully oppose her choice.
Answer: **False — He comes to trust and support her.**

Unit 7: Carrier of Words / Words

13. Khetaram delivers mail across desert villages in Rajasthan.
Answer: **True**

14. According to ‘Words,’ insincere words are just as valuable as sincere ones.
Answer: **False**

Unit 8: Follow That Dream / Believe in Yourself

15. The letter ‘Follow That Dream’ is from a real published collection called ‘My Daughter, My Friend.’

Answer: **True**

16. ‘Believe in Yourself’ discourages readers from taking on new challenges.

Answer: **False**

Section 6 — Fill in the Blanks (Vocabulary)

Unit 1: How I Taught My Grandmother to Read / Bharat Our Land

1. Her grandmother's journey toward _____ took months of daily practice.
Answer: **LITERACY**

2. The _____ of the story guided readers through each week's episode.
Answer: **NARRATOR**

3. They waited eagerly for the next _____ of the serial.
Answer: **EPISODE**

4. Every good story needs a _____ the reader can care about.
Answer: **PROTAGONIST**

5. She gave such a _____ argument that everyone agreed.
Answer: **CONVINCING**

6. The old woman was _____ about hearing the story every week.
Answer: **ARDENT**

Unit 2: The Pot Maker / Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations

7. Her mother wanted her to learn weaving, but she dreamed of a different _____.
Answer: **VOCATION**

8. The girl practised for hours, shaping clay with a wooden _____.
Answer: **SPATULA**

9. Their grandmother taught them to work with _____, respect, and patience.
Answer: **DIGNITY**

10. She walked down to the _____ to collect fresh clay each morning.
Answer: **RIVERBANK**

11. A skilled _____ can turn a lump of clay into a work of art.
Answer: **POTTER**

12. It takes real _____ to keep practising a skill nobody else believes in.
Answer: **INSISTENCE**

Unit 3: Winds of Change / Canvas of Soil

13. Every region of India has its own _____ style of fan-making.
Answer: **REGIONAL**

14. The design on the fan was so _____ that it took weeks to finish.
Answer: **INTRICATE**

15. The painter used a wide _____ of greens to show the garden's growth.
Answer: **PALETTE**

16. A single _____ can capture a whole idea about growth and change.
Answer: **METAPHOR**

17. Villagers depend on this craft as their main _____.
Answer: **LIVELIHOOD**

18. The _____ worked from dawn to dusk, weaving each fan by hand.
Answer: **ARTISAN**

Unit 4: Vitamin-M / I Cannot Remember My Mother

19. Grandpa's _____ sometimes let him down, but his love for his family never did.
Answer: **MEMORY**

20. The little dog became quite _____ as it grew old.
Answer: **FRAIL**

21. She felt _____ when she couldn't remember her neighbour's name.
Answer: **EMBARRASSED**

22. He spent the afternoon _____ around the garden, watering plants slowly.
Answer: **POTTERING**

23. Ravi had to become a _____ to figure out where Grandpa had gone.
Answer: **DETECTIVE**

24. A warm smell from the kitchen can bring back an _____ memory instantly.
Answer: **OLFACTORY**

Unit 5: The World of Limitless Possibilities / Nine Gold Medals

25. Her _____ helped her recover from every setback and try again.
Answer: **RESILIENCE**

26. The interview aimed to _____ old stereotypes about disability.
Answer: **QUELL**

27. She left an _____ mark on everyone who watched her compete.
Answer: **INDELIBLE**

28. Every _____ in the stadium rose for a standing ovation.
Answer: **SPECTATOR**

29. True _____ means noticing someone else's struggle and choosing to help.
Answer: **EMPATHY**

30. The games promote _____, making sure everyone feels they belong.
Answer: **INCLUSIVITY**

Unit 6: Twin Melodies / A Friend Found in Music

31. The _____ group blended classical ragas with modern rhythms.
Answer: **FUSION**

32. Every evening, the students gathered for _____ before the concert.
Answer: **REHEARSAL**

33. The music built slowly to a powerful _____.
Answer: **CRESCENDO**

34. She found _____ in music whenever she felt low.
Answer: **SOLACE**

35. The father finally learned to _____ tradition with his daughter's new ideas.
Answer: **RECONCILE**

36. A good _____ plays every note as if it were the first.
Answer: **VIOLINIST**

Unit 7: Carrier of Words / Words

37. Khetaram walked across the sand _____ to reach the next village.
Answer: **DUNES**

38. The small _____ had no other link to the outside world.
Answer: **HAMLET**

39. Villagers welcomed him with real _____ for his tireless work.
Answer: **ADMIRATION**

40. Her _____ letter meant more to him than any phone call could.
Answer: **HEARTFELT**

41. Stamp collecting, or _____, connects people to postal history.
Answer: **PHILATELY**

42. The desert route was completely _____ of any mobile signal.
Answer: **DEVOID**

Unit 8: Follow That Dream / Believe in Yourself

43. Her mother's letter was full of gentle _____ about choosing a path in life.
Answer: **INSIGHT**

44. It takes real _____ to leave a comfortable job and chase a dream.
Answer: **COURAGE**

45. Reaching a goal often requires _____, years of effort, and sacrifice.
Answer: **CONVICTION**

46. True _____ rarely comes without some sacrifice along the way.
Answer: **GREATNESS**

47. Before you _____ into something new, count the true cost.
Answer: **PLUNGE**

48. She left the _____ of home to follow her ambitions in the city.
Answer: **COMFORT**